



# Turn North



The Monthly Newsletter of the Northland Woodturners

[www.northlandwoodturners-kc.com](http://www.northlandwoodturners-kc.com)

August 2022

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## 2023 Symposium

Don't forget to mark your calendar for the **2023 AAW Symposium in Louisville, KY, June 1-4**. We look forward to seeing you there.

Go online to [2022 AAW Symposium - Chattanooga, Tennessee - Home \(woodturner.org\)](http://2022AAWSymposium-Chattanooga-Tennessee-Home.woodturner.org) to see videos and pictures of the 2022 AAW Symposium wrap-up; Some interesting Bowl turning in the video of the Saturday Night Turning Challenge.

## Chapter Meetings:

First Thursday of every month, 7-9 pm.  
Our ADDRESS: We're south of Zona Rosa just off NW Prairie View Rd., in the old Mid-Continent Library building on the top floor. Parking is on top of the hill off Tower Drive.

## Coming Attractions

Newsletters on the Chapter Website:  
<http://northlandwoodturners-kc.com>

Event Information:

**NEEDED: Fund raising Ideas.**

**Remember—2022 dues are \$10 for the year.**

**Due beginning January 7, 2022**

**Next Meeting:  
August 4, 2022**



Challenge Bowls from the June pickup for display at the July meeting;

Amazing what comes out of a rough blank that has been stored, waxed for protection, after being turned into a finished bowl.

More to come later about who had what.





### Cypress – *Taxodium distichum*

Cypress, *Taxodium distichum*, is a deciduous conifer, meaning it is an evergreen (conifer) however, it loses its leaves in the winter. That is why it is commonly called bald cypress. The common name ‘cypress’ is applied to two genera. One genus is of the family *Taxidoaceae* to which the bald cypress belongs and is more than likely the most familiar to us here in Missouri. The other applies to the true cypress species of the genus *Capressus* and includes Monterey cypress which is native to California and has been widely planted in Australia, New Zealand and East Africa and, on a small scale, in Europe. The bald cypress is a magnificent tree and is often planted around pond margins and even in yards, parking lots, parks and campuses.

Bald cypress grows in swamps, sloughs, and wet bottomland forests in the lowlands of southeastern Missouri and mostly on down in the southeastern United States. One characteristic feature of the cypress is the ‘knees’ which are aerial roots that protrude above the ground or swamp water where it grows. The knees are sometimes harvested and used for artistic carvings and woodworking projects.

Cypress lumber is strong and durable and the heartwood is a pleasant yellowish-brown to pinkish-brown color and when cut it has a cedar-like scent. With its legendary beauty, natural durability, and high rot resistance, cypress has long been a staple on beach homes along the Atlantic seaboard and throughout the Southern United States. Because cypress generates its own preservative oil, called cypressene, it’s an ideal wood for coastal locations with constant heat, humidity, and torrential rains. More recently, the use of cypress has spread from Maine to Southern California as the wood is increasingly being used in place of other wood species, such as cedar, redwood, and pressure-treated wood.

For the woodturner cypress is a surprisingly nice wood to turn. It turns well for being a ‘softwood’, finishes nicely and is light yet strong. It is fairly easy to dent however, and predrilling for nails and screws will help avoid splitting. I like to use it for Christmas ornaments where lightness is important. Sharp tools and light cuts are recommended to avoid tearout. It normally has straight grain, which may be even or uneven, and a coarse texture. The oil content gives it a greasy feel. It sands well, glues well and holds paint very well.

An artistic form of the wood is caused by the fungus *Stereum taxodii*, which causes a brown pocket rot known as "pecky cypress". It attacks the heartwood of living trees, usually from the crown down to the roots.

Cypress wood has been used for barrels, caskets, boats, shingles, railroad ties, fence posts, docks, and bridge beams. It is also used for siding, sash, doors, paneling, trim and general millwork. Tanks, vats, greenhouse framing and products subjected to moisture are ideal uses.

You can read more about Cypress at; [Cypress on the Wood-database](#) or at [Cypress on Wikipedia](#).

Written by – Mel Bryan

This article concludes the articles on **Wood of the Month**. If you have an item of interest you would like to see in **Turn North**, Let the Editor know and research will begin. Thank you for reading about the different woods we use to make the wonderful turnings.

## SHOW AND TELL



The following pictures are of the bowl blanks picked up at the June meeting for challenge turnings.

**Kent Townsend** turned his **Cherry** bowl and put a decorative piece in the bottom. Ask Kent why he decorated his for the full story. Nice job turning the bowl, Kent. The insert has a wood burned cherry design with two cherries and a leaf.



**Carl Sievering** turned his **Walnut** blank and inserted his trademark star in the bottom along with side decorations using a procedure demonstrated by Chip Siskey at a previous meeting.



Carl also brought in his finished piece shown at a previous meeting. He had a piece of spalted **Walnut** that he treated with “Cactus Juice” wood stabilizer. This turning also incorporated some colored resin to fill some voids before being turned. It is VERY heavy, compared to the original piece.

Nice job Carl.

**Steve Dougherty** and **Mikeal Jones** had almost twin pieces of highly figured **Walnut**. Steve’s is on the left below and Mikeal’s is on the right below.

The blanks might have come from the same crotch **Walnut** piece. Great job guys!





**Andy Brundidge's** blank was **Maple** and had some knots on one side. That didn't stop Andy from making a nice bowl with some great grain patterns.

Dean Pollard chose a smaller blank of dark walnut. It has a straight side and is about 3" deep. Nice grain pattern and no real flaws in the blank made for a beautiful turning.

Way to go Dean!



Jerry Nick turned a Satin-finished Cherry bowl with a walnut wax finish. The walnut wax was a Walrus Oil product that David Bartlett picked up at Rockler's open house back this spring. This is a food-safe finish and could be used with salad or anything that didn't soak into the wood.



Chip Siskey's blank was Cherry wood and he had enough thickness to make a crock-like outer rim. Sorry, Chip, no picture of the outer edge is available. The bowl is about 2-1/2" deep and would look nice in anyone's house.



Some Woodturners seem to think alike. Brenda Sander brought her Cherry bowl with a very similar Crock edge to Chip Siskey's. Both bowls turned out very nice.

The winners of the best bowls were Carl Sievering first, Andy Brundidge second and Brenda Sander third. Congratulations to the winners by vote of the club members present at the July meeting.

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## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



The July program was a turning challenge, as if finishing bowl blanks wasn't enough! In all seriousness though, Chip Siskey brought a sample: A golf ball on a Tee mounted on a base. All this to be turned in 2 minutes was a SERIOUS challenge. Not all the members present "jumped at the chance".

Needless to say, the golf ball, tee and base all had to be connected in the turning. A 1-1/2" square turning stock about 5" long was the blank.

The winner was Chip Siskey. See the "finished" turnings below.



If you would like to Challenge Chip's turning skill come prepared for the next challenge turning time.

Thanks to everyone who has helped with our plug orders in the past. We will be asking for help getting other projects to raise funds. All ideas are welcome along with samples.

The CLUB NEWSLETTER tab of the club website is at

<http://www.northlandwoodturners-kc.com/>

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### REMINDER:

The annual dues for 2021 **are still**  
**only \$10.00.** Advanced payments are accepted.

Checks can be made payable to  
**Northland Woodturners.**